## A New Heptadentate Picolinate–Based Ligand and Its Corresponding Gd(III) Complex: the Effect of Picolinate *versus* Acetate Pendant on Complex Property

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Contents	Page
<sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C NMR spectra of ligand H <sub>4</sub> peada	<b>S</b> 3
IR and ESI-MS(+ve) of ligand H <sub>4</sub> peada	S4
IR and ESI-MS(+ve) of complex 1	S5
IR and ESI-MS(+ve) of complex 2	S6
Changes in UV-vis spectra of xylenol organe upon addition of different	S7
concentrations of Gd(III) ion	
Calibration curve obtained from the spectrophotometric changes of xylenol orange	S7



Figure S1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of H<sub>4</sub>peada measured in CD<sub>3</sub>OD solvent.



Figure S2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of ligand H<sub>4</sub>peada measured in CD<sub>3</sub>OD solvent.



Figure S3. FTIR spectrum of ligand H<sub>4</sub>peada.



Figure S4. ESI–MS (+ve) mass spectrum of ligand  $H_4$  peada. Simulated spectrum has been given as inset.



Figure S5. FTIR spectrum of complex 1.



Figure S6. ESI-MS (-ve) mass spectrum of complex 1. Simulated spectrum has been given as inset.



Figure S7. FTIR spectrum of complex 2.



Figure S8. ESI–MS (-ve) mass spectrum of complex 2. Simulated spectrum has been given as inset.



**Figure S9.** UV–vis spectrum of xylenol orange solution in acetate buffer (pH = 5.8) in the presence of varied concentrations of Gd(III) ions, from zero to 47.62  $\mu$ M.



**Figure S10.** Calibration curve obtained from the spectrophotometric changes of xylenol orange (in acetate buffer, pH = 5.8) absorptions in the presence of varied concentrations of Gd(III) ions. For 50  $\mu$ L of complex 1 ([complex 1] = 27.5 mM) in 2.0 mL xylenol orange solution (pH = 5.8), A573 nm/A433 nm = 0.0987.